

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 L-02 /049 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4227

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 4916

SECDEF FOR ASD/ISA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS PFOR ET US

SUBJECT: MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MAP)

REF: ADDIS 4625

1. THROUGH AUTHORITY GRANTED BY COL. SIGLER, ASD/ISA, ON APRIL 18, 1975, CMAAG ADVISED MOD IN WRITING ON APRIL 21 THAT "THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE EIGHT (8) F5A AIRCRAFT THROUGH THE MAP TO THE ETHIOPIAN PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT, TO BE AVAILABLE DURING THE FIRST OR SECOND QUARTER OF FY76."

2. DURING A TOUR D'HORIZON OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE MATTERS ON APRIL 24, THE MOD INFORMED CMAAG THAT THIS ANNOUNCEMENT HAD BEEN "VERY DISCONCERTING TO ALL ELEMENTS OF THE (ETHIOPIAN) GOVERNMENT." WHEN CMAAG ASKED WHY, THE MOD REPLIED, "I KNOW YOU WERE VERY PLEASED TO MAKE THE ANNOUNCEMENT, BUT WE HAD BEEN TOLD THAT WE COULD GET THESE AIRCRAFT IMMEDIATELY." HE THEN ADDED THAT "WE FEEL WE ARE SLOWLY BEING ABANDONED BY THE UNITED STATES." HE SAID HE WOULD RESPOND IN WRITING TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT IN DUE COURSE. CMAAG ASSURED HIM THAT HIS FEELING OF ABANDONMENT WAS CERTAINLY A MISCONCEPTION AND REVIEWED AT LENGTH A NUMBER OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES THE USG IS TAKING TO BE RESPONSIVE TO EPMG REQUESTS.

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3. SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION CONFIRMED THAT THE MOD FELT THAT NO ONE

IN THE USMAAG HAD EVER INTIMATED IMMEDIATE DELIVERY OF F5A AIRCRAFT. THIS LED HIM TO WONDER ALOUD IF "WHAT KISSINGER AND THE OTHERS SAY" IS GETTING DOWN TO USMAAG.

4. THIS ANOTHER IS A SERIES OF CASES WHERE ELEMENTS OF THE EPMG HAVE CONTENDED THAT THEY HAVE ORAL PROMISES FROM WASHINGTON OF DELIVERY OF MILITARY ITEMS ON A MORE EXPEDITED BASIS THAN WERE PROJECTED TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY OR USMAAG. THE PRIME REASON FOR THIS APPEARS TO BE THE FACT THAT THE ETHIOPIAN EMBASSY HABITUALLY REPORTS ORAL DISCUSSION IN MORE OPTIMISTIC TERMS THAN WARRANTED. IN ANY CASE, IT IS POTENTIALLY A VERY SERIOUS PROBLEM WHICH COULD REACH CIRITICAL DIMENSIONS IF THE F5E IS NOT FORTHCOMING AS AN FMS DELIVERY THIS SUMMER.

5. PERHAPS SOME TECHNIQUE WHEREBY ORAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE DISCUSSIONS WITH ETHIOPIAN REPS IN WASHINGTON COULD BE QUICKLY REDUCED TO WRITING AND SERVED ON THE EPMG WOULD HAVE VALUE IN REDUCING THIS PROBLEM.
HUMMEL

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